

# The Ohio Statesman

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## The Ohio Statesman

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## The Abolition Party and State Rights.

The Democratic triumph in all the most important State elections of the last six months have opened the eyes of some of the more politic Abolition leaders to the possible consequences to themselves of the attempt to break down the barriers which protect State rights against Federal encroachment. We should have seen in the Republican party no symptoms of reaction in favor of State rights if they had not been brought to entertain doubts of their success in the next Presidential election.

It makes a great difference in their expositions of the Constitution whether they offer these expositions in the character of self-confident or possible doubt. The bulk of the party are still blind enough to expect the people will continue them in power; hence they persist in advocating an accumulation of power in the central government sufficient to override and break down State authority, especially of all State authority which would resist the universal confederation of Southern property. But Mr. Greeley, who has been the foremost advocate of emancipation and confederation, now takes counsel of his fears, and on Saturday delivered to his abolition brethren, under his personal signature, a homily in defense of State rights, which contains some sound constitutional doctrine.

While the Republican party was rising to power it revealed the Southern fear in their extreme interpretation of the doctrine of State rights. It was in the lively of State rights that they withheld and nullified the fugitive slave law. Mr. Greeley sees that the chances are more than even that the Democratic party will be in power after the 4th of March, 1865.

He foresees that, in that event, the constitutional guarantees respecting slavery would be enforced by the Federal Government, and that an extreme interpretation of State rights is the ground on which such enforcement can be resisted. He accordingly makes a timely retreat behind the defenses of the Personal Liberty bills and the nullifying decision of the abolition Supreme Court of Wisconsin. His remarks are appended as a reply to the letter of Oliver Johnson, the editor of the Anti-Slavery Standard.

"It was never for 'State Rights,' of the exaggerated, Calhoun stamp. I never believed nor held that a State had any more right to secede from or nullify the laws of the Union than a county or township. I recognize no State rights as inhering in a State which has rebelled against and is making war upon the Union. But the new light of the States, even while loyal, as mere municipalities, if it were the windy bomb of leather-headed blockheads, predicting a grand consolidated nation of which the States are to be merely provinces—must not blind you and me to the fact that the States have hitherto been the citadel and sanctuary of whatever freedom of speech and action we have enjoyed—that it is but a few years since we were urging States to go to the very verge of their reserved powers in passing personal liberty bills, and since we were all electrified by the decision of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin that the fugitive slave law was unconstitutional. Had such a consolidated Union as is now eulogized and anticipated—nay, proclaimed as actually existing—been in operation here for the last thirty years, you and I would long since have spent years in felons' cells, under duty enacted national laws, and the popular ruling of national judges, for writing and publishing democratic tracts that no man has a right to steal another's labor. Should we not think well of the bridge that has borne us thus far safely?"

"It is urged that the dark days of national servility to the relentless slave power have passed away forever. I hope so, but do not feel sure of it."

"Were the slaveholding rebels to lay down their arms and return frankly and thoroughly to loyalty to-morrow, I believe they might resume the government of the country at the next presidential election. And then I would very much prefer that there should be some State rights left; and so, I think, would many of those now blatant for extreme consolidation, let us keep to the safe in the past, and let Mr. Greeley be an ill-balanced ass as long as any of them, but he falls below many of his Abolition brethren in courage and persistence. When, under the prompting of his fears or his self-interest, his one-sided mind—which is by no means deficient in coarse vigor—catches a glimpse of the other side of the question, he is quite capable of perceiving how his own principles may operate to his detriment."

"A socialist, working hand in hand with Abolitionism in advocating Fourierism in the Tribune, until he found he was thereby damaging the business of his newspaper, when he began to preach Fourierism 'with bated breath,' and soon shied altogether. He was a burning and shining Maine law fanatic until the courts suddenly struck him that coercive totalitarianism interfered with the success of the Republican party, when the Maine law was consigned to the same limbo with the phalarisettes. He was the loudest advocate of the emancipation proclamation and the first man of his party to demonstrate that it amounts to nothing. From being a staunch and zealous State rights man in opposing the execution of the fugitive slave law, and a high-flying 'State outside' man as a leader in the confederate cause, he comes around and completes the circle by again maintaining the doctrine of State rights against his own party when he fears that the Federal Government will soon be Democratic, and the Abolitionists be able to control only a few isolated State Governments. But if the Tribune will continue to preach as sound doctrine as that quoted above we shall be very well satisfied with the result to make a very serious inquiry into its motives."

Letter from on Board the Keokuk.

The Paymaster of the unfortunate Iron-clad Keokuk, writes:

I am safe, and on board the Vermont, with the rest of our officers and crew, with the exception of Ensign McIntosh, who will probably die of injuries received in the fight, and have lost nearly all my clothing. My steward saved my sword and pistol, which is all that I have left. I saved my money, but barely that, as I went below after the first wave came over the vessel. Until that time I was engaged with others trying to stop leaks. The vessel was not given up until she had begun to settle fast. I got leave to-day to go home per Arago, but as all is so unsettled, and my books lost, I have thought it best to stop and straighten affairs for the men.

I will not attempt to describe the fight of the 7th, or the horrors of that afternoon! The Keokuk was struck ninety times; more than half of those shots went through the small vessel! It was as one chance out of ten thousand of our ever getting out of the fight! Never before was a vessel under such a fire! Over three hundred guns must have been playing on us, and that, too, within three hundred yards of Sumter. We were nearer the first and further up than any other vessel.

The men were perfectly awe-stricken. Such was the roll of fire along the sides that we could scarcely open the ports of the vessel to fire.

Poor McIntosh—a splendid fellow—I helped out of the turret, and laid him bleeding on the bed. We scarcely got him out of the ship before he sank. His head is out to pieces, skull for brains.

When the Keokuk was going down, within a short distance of Morris Island beach, the rebels on the island joined their hats and cheered. They might have sunk us, crowded as we were on a little tugboat, with their batteries. I fear Charleston may stand in spite of us, but hope

another attack will be made. The Admiral, with the iron-clads, is still within the bar, but all is rumor.

Another person who was on board the Keokuk, from the time she went into action until she sank, gives the following particulars:

The vessel, it is known, steamed toward the rebel forts last in the line of battle; but the first once engaged, the Keokuk, by her superior speed, and the splendid daring of her commander (Rains) from the Iron-clad Sumter and took the fire of that fort as little more than half the distance at which the Monitor batteries had received it. Our informant explains this apparently inexplicable movement, so far as it was understood on board. Though the Keokuk was deemed the weakest of our vessels, and this fact reasonably accounted for the position which was assigned her by the Admiral, she was not to be so easily overcome. The implied restraint and the impossibility of going against the first line of battle, and it was determined that when the opportunity offered the Keokuk should do her duty.

It should be remarked that the officers and crew, with a national pride in the vessel as their own, did not share the opinions of some other persons that the Keokuk was not a first-class battery, and they believed that in the conflict into which they were entering they had an even chance with their brethren on the Monitors. Capt. Rains, with his crew, were willing to test her, and take the risks. "If she proved invulnerable," one of her officers remarked, "we were prepared to fight the rebels at the mouth of their cannon." The excellent capacities of the Keokuk for maneuvering also entered into the calculations and confidence of her commander, in the hazardous but brilliant design which he had formed, and which he and his crew entered on without fear.

The Keokuk moved rapidly; she answered her helm beautifully, and she steamed into the fight while her consorts were receiving the rapid fire of all the forts. As she entered the range of the rebel guns she fired a short time over and around her, but did not lose her position. The first shot which struck her deck near the turret, but glanced off. A moment after the turret received a heavy ball, which was deemed to be a little less than a 200-pounder.

The high hopes with which the men of the Keokuk went into the fight were, by the effect of this shot, proved to have been delusive. It struck the turret, badly shattering the iron and wood-work of which it was constructed. The shot did not enter, but tumbled back into the water. Seventeen men were inside the turret. Ball-heads and fragments of the broken turret flew among them, and Acting Ensign McIntosh, commanding there, was struck and disabled. It is not too much to say that there was some consternation at that moment among those men. McIntosh was removed below; and after the turret was struck again a part of the force was withdrawn from it to the main deck.

The intelligence which was thus received by the crew of the vulnerability of the Keokuk was immediately followed by ample and similar proofs from the forward turret, and the effect of the shot on the sloping sides, which were broken through in like manner.

Hancock all Right—Eight Hundred Democratic Majority.

We have the proud satisfaction of announcing that the people of old Hancock still cling to the principles of Democracy, who will serve the Union as it was and the Constitution as it is. They have spoken with emphasis, against the unwarranted assumptions of power by the Administration, and the perversion of the war. They still remain loyal to the Union and the Constitution, and regard the interests of white men as of more importance than the negro. They have not met in secret convulsion, like conspirators, to swear allegiance to the Government, but in the broad light of day have manifested their devotion to the Union, and tendered their aid to the Administration in all its constitutional actions.

The returns foot up a Democratic majority of about eight hundred. In several townships the Abolitionists displayed the "white face" and ran no ticket; but making allowance for the number of Abolition voters actually cast in these townships, we have a fine majority of between six and seven hundred.

Glory enough for one day!—Hancock Courier.

Lincoln's Coat of Mail.

The coat of mail sent by the Tycoon of Japan to President Lincoln is described as unique. An umbrella like helmet, made of fabricated sheets of steel and copper, shields the head, while a rind of it woven silk cord and lacquered net-work falls gracefully upon the shoulders. The outside of the helmet is profusely ornamented with chrysanthemum, in gold, in beautiful relief upon a dark lacquer, with now and then a rim of purple. The interior is of copper, lacquered in scarlet and brown. The armlets of the finest copper chain-work. The breast plate is of copper, intersected with parallel strips of lacquer, and woven together with delicate wire and golden cord. A short kilt accompanies the armor, and with lacquered leggings, grotesquely formed, completes the set.

The Spring Elections in Ohio.

The official vote of the State, if it could be had, would show that the Democracy carried the State by a handsome majority. In Southern Ohio, where in Cincinnati, the Democratic vote was heavier than last fall; in Northern Ohio we have made heavy gains; in the Western Reserve we have held our own. Outside of the cities, where the people are unfettered by bayonets and free from the influence of army contractors and cotton speculators, who have green-backs by the thousands, the Democracy hold sway. As the fall election there will be such a vote polled for the Democracy as will establish the so-called "Union" League, who are so basely impugning the patriotism and motives of the Democracy—the only true Union men in the State!—Seneca Advertiser.

Then and Now.

Hon. O. H. Browning was one of the speakers at the recent grand Democratic mass meeting at Quincy. The Herald says Mr. B. made a noble speech. "He demonstrated (what) Democracy generally have regarded as an impossibility) that a man can call himself a Republican and still be a patriot." Also, that "his speech met the cordial approval and the hearty applause of the Democracy."

A year ago Mr. Browning was Lincoln's "right hand man" in the Senate. They were then both conservative men, engaged in devising measures for carrying on the war with vigor for the suppression of the rebellion and restoration of the Union. The Democratic party then supported Mr. Lincoln earnestly and heartily. No man accuses Mr. Browning of having changed his politics since then. But he now flings himself at home in a Democratic meeting, while the Democracy are accused of turning traitors to the Government for ceasing to support Mr. Lincoln's Administration. The Democracy then were loyal enough—as was Mr. Browning. They stand now where they stood then. How is it loyalty a year to secessionism now? Suppose the Democracy turn about and support Mr. Lincoln again, how long will it be until their new position is declared treason? Is loyalty a thing of the past and another thing to-day and another to-morrow?—Alton Democrat.

Our exchanges in Ohio bring us the best kind of election returns. The Democratic gains generally on the vote of last fall are large. The people in the country are aroused. Everything indicates a Democratic majority in the State next fall of twenty-five to thirty thousand.—Zanesville Press.

## The Election in Adams County.

The townships heretofore Democratic have given their usual majority on the good old Democratic ticket. Only three townships, out of thirteen in the county, have elected the Republican ticket. In one of these, we have Democratic gain. Hurrah for Adams county. —West Union Democratic Union.

Fatal Affray.

From a gentleman just from Bainbridge, Ross county, we learn that a serious affair occurred in that place on the 11th inst., between Thomas Higgins and Charles Bramley, which resulted in the shooting of the latter and his instant death. We are unable to elicit full particulars of the affair. A young man by the name of White was the instigator of the matter, and assisted in its final termination. Higgins was a discharged soldier and White a deserter. Bramley was but 18 years old. Higgins and his accomplice, White, have since been arrested at Chillicothe and have had a preliminary examination.

The Art of War.—The New York Times has an appreciative correspondent. We sincerely hope that he is not a copperhead; but read and inwardly digest:

The Old Story.—A correspondent calls our attention to the fact that when the national troops held Fort Sumter, we waited until the rebels had (by their own account) 43 guns and 5000 men against 30 men, or enough to work nine guns. Now, again, at the second battle in Charleston harbor, we have waited until the rebels had 300 guns, against which we brought 33.

Not Dead But Sleeping.—A rather singular case of restoration to life occurred in our city last week. A German named Meisner was supposed to have "shuffled off this mortal coil" at that point on Saturday last, were no less than laid out by his sorrowing friends, and a badge of mourning was hung upon the door of his residence. Funeral notices were printed and circulated through the city inviting friends and acquaintances to be present at the last sad, solemn rites. On the following morning the "deceased" interfered with the arrangements by appearing, not as a disembodied spirit, but as a substantial flesh and blood man.

He was not yet prepared to become food for the worm. The funeral ceremonies were indefinitely postponed, and our fellow-citizen, we are glad to say, "still lives."—Portsmouth Times.

JACOB MILLER, a German who is known in most of the villages of this county as an industrious and energetic dealer in eggs, fell dead while riding along the road in his wagon about the middle of a half mile north of Kennosburg, last Friday. His disease was an affection of the heart. Mr. Miller was in his 44th year. He leaves a wife and five small children, almost among strangers, to feel the weight of this severe and sudden dispensation of Providence.

Since our last issue Mr. Samuel Craig has buried his two youngest children—a bright little boy and a little infant daughter—both with the strange malady which has brought sorrow to many hearts in our village within the last fortnight.

Mrs. Lewis Noble also lost a child by the same disease Friday last.

There is not, just now, an unusual amount of sickness in Cambridge, other than colds and the like. —Guernsey Jeffersonian.

TRY FOR TAY.—"Mr. Timothy," said a learned lady, who had been showing off her wit at the expense of a daughter, "you remind me of a barometer that is filled with nothing in the upper story."

"Divine Almita," meekly replied her adorer, "in thanking you for that compliment let me remind you that you occupy my upper story entirely."

An Ugly Record.—The Portland Advertiser states that the steamer North America, arrived at that port on Saturday last, were no less than seventeen American captains of merchantmen, eleven of whom had sold their ships abroad on account of the immense war risks and the absence of demand for freights under the hazard of shipments in American bottoms, and four of whom had their ships captured by the Alabama.

BAGGAGE TAKEN POSSESSION OF.—Some days since General Hooker issued an order reducing the baggage for each officer and each soldier to the minimum standard. The result of his order has been the reception of a large amount of baggage in this city, sent up here on Government boats. An examination of this baggage has developed the fact that it consists, in a great proportion, of articles taken from private residences in Fredericksburg after the battle. It has been made the duty of Captain Todd, Colonel Marshall, to take possession of all such property and render an exhibit of the same to the War Department for instructions. —Washington Star.

If the Abolitionists call Democrats "copperheads," why don't they call themselves "tigerheads," as a contra distinction term? The Democracy are as bitter as copperheads upon the enemies of the Constitution, while the negroes are willing to trample that sacred instrument in the dust, rather than fall out with the negroes of the South. —Louisville Democrat.

SOME CONSCIENCE SMITING.—Some sent to the President on Wednesday week, by Express from Brooklyn, New York, a package containing \$85, which the latter was directed to obtain from the Government. If all other Abolition millions would do likewise, it would put many millions of dollars in the treasury. —Springfield Democrat.

We notice by our Columbus exchanges that the members of the Ohio Legislature, after casting the people of Ohio something like a hundred thousand dollars, have concluded to disperse. That's the best move they made during their two years. —Guernsey Jeffersonian.

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## TELEGRAPHIC.

### Sunday Night's Dispatches

Important Movements on the Lower Mississippi.

New York, April 21.—The steamer George Washington arrived from New Orleans 13th. Important movements were in progress against the rebels on Bayou Teche. Banks is in the field at the head of Governor's, Emory's and Welles's corps. Welles's forces crossed Berwick's bay and advanced to Pattersonville, five miles up the Teche. The enemy retreated, our forces steadily advancing. Welles was reinforced Sunday by Emory's division.

Grover's forces embarked at Brashear City, and proceeded in Grand Lake to Indian Bend, above Franklin.

These movements, if successful, will bring the enemy between two fires. The rebels number eight thousand.

It was reported in New Orleans on the 13th that Welles was within six miles of Franklin. It was also reported that Gen. Grant had appeared with a strong force up Red river.

On the 9th Col. Daniels, with seven hundred colored troops, went to Pascagoula, Miss., and captured the place. He was subsequently attacked by three hundred rebel cavalry and a company of infantry. Twenty rebels were killed and a large number wounded.